Docket No.   000004.00680

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF: Tsutomu SAKURAI et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/646,841   GAU: Unassigned
FILED: August 25, 2003   EXAMINER: Unassigned
FOR: OPTICAL FIBER ASSEMBLY HAVING HERMETIC SEAL PORTION AND METHOD FOR MAKING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA. 22313-1450

SIR:
   Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

☒   The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.

☐   A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

☐   Attached is a copy of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. These documents are listed on form PTO-1449, also attached.

☐   A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

☐   Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

☐   No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

☒   This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the subject patent application.

☒   This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

PETITION

☐   Applicant(s) hereby request consideration of the attached information. A check is attached in the amount of the Petition fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1).

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

☒   Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number **23-2185**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

                              Respectfully Submitted,

                              BLANK ROME LLP

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27557
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Date: October 10, 2003

O8/01

Form PTO 1449 (Modified) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	ATTY DOCKET NO. 000004.00680		SERIAL NO. 10/646,841
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT	APPLICANT: Tsutomu SAKURAI et al.		
	FILING DATE August 25, 2003		GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOC. NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,764,833	06/09/98	Kakii et al.			
	AB	5,970,194	10/19/99	Dunn et al.			
	AC	6,088,504	07/11/00	Filas et al.			
	AD	US 2001/0033729 A1	10/25/01	Kuroha			
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOC. NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	AO				☐	☐
	AP				☐	☐
	AQ				☐	☐
	AR				☐	☐
	AS				☐	☐
	AT				☐	☐
	AU				☐	☐
	AV				☐	☐

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AW	
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

Examiner	Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.